

him. Sixteen years sounds like a long time of fond memories, but my dear friend and colleague, George Brown, has been making lasting impressions in this country for over 35.

From the depth of issues like fighting discrimination and segregation, to the brink of the AIDS epidemic and continuing world conflicts, George has experienced a changing country and world throughout his time in Congress. However, experiencing change is considerably separate from making change, which George Brown did much of. He has been a part of these changes, and for that reason, we honor him today.

As a college student in the 1930's, Brown began inspiring change when he began to fight for civil rights. At the University of California at Los Angeles, George helped to integrate the campus when he was the first white man to live with an African-American roommate. That strive for change continued as he graduated from UCLA with a degree in Industrial Physics and used it to serve the people of Los Angeles. He was elected to the Monterey Park, CA, city council in 1954 and became mayor of the city in 1955, just one year later. George moved on to the California State Assembly in 1958, where he focused on environmental issues. This drive to fight for the environment stayed with George throughout his entire career, including his 17 terms in Congress.

In 1962, George Brown ran to represent the 29th district in California and won his seat with an 11 percentage point margin. During his years in Congress, Representative Brown voted for the Civil Rights Act of 1964, served on the House Committee on Science as a ranking member, served on the House Committee on Agriculture, worked to integrate technology and education, spoke out on foreign policy issues and fought painstakingly hard to keep the environment safe, clean and healthy.

I would like to praise George Brown for who he was and how he contributed to this society. As a Congressman, as a family man, as an environmentalist and as a citizen, George Brown will be remembered.

THE LATE HON. GEORGE BROWN

HON. JOHN J. LaFALCE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. LaFALCE. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate having this opportunity to say a few words in memory of my friend and colleague George Brown and to reflect on his distinguished service to our nation.

Through his military service in WWII and nearly 35 years in the House of Representatives, George Brown established a record of public service matched by few others. Indeed, he has ennobled our profession through his example.

During his career, George showed himself to be a man of strong moral conviction and uncommon vision. In his early days in Washington, George continued his life-long work as a tireless advocate for racial equality and civil rights.

Later, as Chairman and Ranking Member of the Science Committee, he lent his scientific expertise and steadfast support to issues of science, technology, and aeronautics. He will be best remembered, perhaps, for his dedication to strengthening America's commitment to manned and unmanned space exploration. His efforts in this area have left an indelible mark on our space program, and have quite literally broadened our nation's horizons.

George also recognized the need to conserve our natural resources and protect the environment, long before such issues were part of the mainstream agenda. Time has shown just how right he was.

Throughout his many years in the House, George had a wonderful ability to work with people of all political persuasions. He was always willing to find common ground and form alliances with others, making him an extraordinarily effective advocate for the people of his 42nd District.

George Brown will be remembered as a man who challenged us to make our world a better place, while advocating exploration of worlds beyond our own. He was a great member of this institution. I will miss him. I extend my deepest sympathies to his family.

GEORGE BROWN, CONGRESSIONAL
ICON

HON. BRUCE F. VENTO

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. VENTO. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to add my words of condolences to the family of George Brown, our late colleague. George was a friend and counselor to many members, including myself. He was a real worker and advocate for people in the House. Congressman Brown applied himself and invested himself in the pursuit of good policy, first for the people of this nation and California, and for the attainment of human kind.

Congressman Brown invested the time and energy to understand the intricacies of policy and often we stood up together and spoke for good, sound science as it affected our landscapes and natural resources. The United States Biological Survey, the man in the Biosphere program, and, of course, George Brown had a legacy of accomplishments to match similar efforts related to the National Science Foundation (NSF), NASA, and the Office of Technology Assessment (OTA).

I know that George felt if we had good information as members or as administrators we would be equipped to make the best public policy. George Brown's modest life and background working for a good education, which he obtained and used, says a lot about Representative Brown. George Brown did not forget how he got to where he was and the need to stand up for those without a voice in the political power structure. George Brown worked against housing discrimination, for the right of workers to win representation and fair compensation and eventually was elected to local office and to the United States House where he set off on a great career and journey.

George Brown, plain speaking and modestly attired, possessed the power of ideas and

knowledge. Congressman Brown didn't let political expediency interfere with what he thought was the right vote or the correct action. We will miss the warm friendship and special role that George Brown played in Congress on a professional and especially personal basis, but his spirit will live in our actions and memories. George Brown has set a very high mark and we surely stand on this shoulders as we look ahead to and try to see the future and hope for our great nation.

My sympathy to his wonderful wife Marta and to his family, you have our support and comfort. God bless George Brown and thank God for the service of this wonderful man.

IN HONOR OF THE WORLD PEACE
BELL AND THE CITY OF NEW-
PORT, KENTUCKY

HON. KEN LUCAS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. LUCAS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the city of Newport, Kentucky, where the World Peace Bell arrived at its permanent home this weekend. At 12 feet in diameter and 12 feet in height, the bell weighs 66,000 pounds. It is the world's largest swinging bell. I also rise to recognize Wayne Carlisle for his vision, commitment, and enthusiasm, without which the World Peace Bell would not have been possible.

The World Peace Bell is a powerful symbol of freedom and peace. It was cast in Nantes, France, on December 11, 1998, the 50th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Bell has an inscription commemorating that document, as well as engravings marking the most important events of the past 1,000 years.

The World Peace Bell was first rung in Nantes on March 20, 1999, in a public ceremony, and it began a month-and-a-half-long sea voyage from France to New Orleans, where the Bell was made part of that city's July Fourth celebration. The Bell was transported by barge up the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, making stops in 14 cities along the way. The Bell arrived at its final destination on August 1st.

The World Peace Bell will officially open on September 21, 1999, the International Day of Peace, when it will toll to observe the opening session of this year's United Nations General Assembly. On New Year's Eve 1999, the Bell will be rung once every hour and broadcast so that people in every time zone around the globe will hear the new millennium rung in by our World Peace Bell. This celebration will include leaders of church and state from around the world, as well as participants performing native rituals and wearing traditional costumes.

Mr. Speaker, I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate the city of Newport and neighboring river cities on their successful revitalization efforts. The World Peace Bell is only one of a number of projects coming to fruition in the region. The success of these efforts is a testament to the spirit and hard work of the people of Northern Kentucky.

TRIBUTE TO GEORGE BROWN

HON. RON PACKARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. PACKARD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this Opportunity to pay tribute to both a colleague and friend, George Brown.

I had the privilege of serving on the Science Committee during George's tenure as Chairman, and I valued the opportunity to learn from his leadership. George and I worked together on many occasions in support of interests important to our native southern California.

Mr. Speaker, George Brown was an unapologetic liberal, yet that did not stop him from actively working with and befriending Members from the other side of the aisle. In fact, George may forever be remembered for his ability to bring together all Californians serving in Congress. Today, my colleague JERRY LEWIS is doing a remarkable job of leading the California delegation. We should not forget that George Brown began this effort.

In George Brown, this institution has lost a distinguished Member of Congress, a faithful public servant, and a good man. George will be greatly missed, not only as a tireless advocate for the people of California's 42nd Congressional District, but as a close friend to those so fortunate to have known him.

IN HONOR OF THE LATE REP.
GEORGE BROWN

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak with fondness about the late Congressman George Brown. His death leaves us with one less person dedicated to the fight for America's future. When I came to Congress to try to end the Vietnam War, George was also fighting against that war. With his leadership, we brought our soldiers home and ended one of the lowest points in American morale and foreign policy. His fight for what was right didn't end with Vietnam. He fought for the environment, for education, and for the underprivileged throughout his career.

One of Representative Brown's legacies is the Environmental Protection Agency. Before George Brown, there was no single entity in government designated to protect American air, water, land, and wildlife. His dedication to protecting our ecosystem helped improve the quality of life for all of us and future generations. George Brown raised environmental activism from a few dedicated scientists to the general public, making the environment an issue and assuring that the government protected it.

Representative Brown interests went beyond preserving the environment for future generation; he cared deeply about the education of our children. George supported the establishment of educational loans. These loans have provided millions of Americans with the opportunity to go to college and contribute more to our society. Recently, he joined in support of building more schools, hiring

more teachers, and improving the quality of our classes. He was committed to quality education for our children.

George Brown fought to improve the lives of all Americans. He fought especially hard for those Americans who couldn't fight for themselves. Before coming to Congress, George worked to end anti-union laws and to ban discrimination. Once elected to Congress, he worked to enact the Civil Rights Act to address which discrimination against minorities. He also joined in the fight to improve health care, provide affordable prescription drugs, and even to protect our health care workers from accidental needlesticks.

Congressman George Brown fought for so many things that we now take for granted. George stood up for what was right for our environment, education, and the underprivileged. Beyond all of these accomplishments, he was an example to all of us. He stood up for what he believed in regardless of the potential political fall out. He exemplified the ideals that this country was founded on.

Although George is no longer with us, we will continue to fight to ensure that every American has the same rights, freedoms, and opportunities that some want to reserve for the elite few.

THE LYME DISEASE INITIATIVE
OF 1999

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 5, 1999

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing legislation to wage a comprehensive fight against Lyme disease.

This proposal represents the next stage of our campaign to reduce and then eradicate Lyme disease. It is a five year, \$125 million blueprint for attacking the disease on every front. In addition to authorizing the necessary resources to wage this war, the bill: (1) makes the development of better detection tests for Lyme the highest priority of Lyme disease research; (2) lays out a list of vital public health goals for agencies to accomplish, including a 33 percent reduction in Lyme disease within five years of enactment in the 10 highest and most endemic states; (3) fosters better coordination between the scattered Lyme disease programs within the Federal Government through a five-year joint-agency plan so that the left hand knows what the right hand is doing; (4) helps protect federal workers and visitors at federally owned lands in endemic areas through a system of periodic, standardized, and publically accessible Lyme disease risk assessments; (5) requires a review of our system of Lyme disease prevention and surveillance of search for areas of improvement; (6) fosters additional research into other related tick-borne illnesses so that the problem of co-infection can be addressed; (7) initiates a plan to boost public and physician understanding about Lyme disease; and (8) creates a Lyme Disease Task Force to provide the public with the opportunity to hold our public health officials accountable as they accomplish these tasks.

Mr. Speaker, Lyme disease is one of our nation's fastest growing infectious diseases, and the most common tick-borne disease in

America. According to some estimates, Lyme disease costs our nation \$1 billion to \$2 billion in medical costs annually. The number of confirmed cases of Lyme disease was nearly 16,000 last year, an increase of 24.5 percent from the previous year, and that is only the tip of the iceberg. Many experts believe the official statistics understate the true numbers of Lyme disease cases by as much as ten or twelve-fold. Lyme disease is sometimes called the 'Great Pretender' disease because its symptoms so closely mimic other conditions. Thus, it can be easily misdiagnosed. Worse still, our current detection tests are not always reliable and accurate enough to detect the disease in patients.

The Lyme Disease Initiative of 1999 builds on the accomplishments of the legislation introduced in the previous Congress, H.R. 379. As Members may recall, we were successful in getting a portion of that bill enacted as part of the Strom Thurmond National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 1999, as well as part of the Fiscal Year 1999 Defense Appropriations bill. The provisions from last year up dedicated up to \$3 million in Department of Defense funding dedicated for Lyme and tick-borne disease research, so that our soldiers and their families can be protected when they work and live in areas endemic for Lyme disease. This \$3 million in funding was a good start, but there is still so much that remains unknown about Lyme disease.

That is where the new proposal comes in. It is the product of countless meetings with patients and families struggling to cope with this terribly debilitating disease. I cannot tell my colleagues how many times I have met with families who have told me heart breaking stories about how they went from doctor to doctor without getting an accurate diagnosis, getting progressively weaker and sicker, while racking up massive medical bills. Sadly, the lack of physician knowledge about Lyme disease, and the inadequacies of existing laboratory detection tests, compound the misery. Consequently, we have consulted extensively with the organizations representing these patients, as well as with the agencies charged with implementing the new program, to ensure that the bill addresses these very real concerns.

In short, I believe this is a good plan that affirmatively meets the needs of patients, and one that is worthy of my colleagues' support.

THE LYME DISEASE INITIATIVE OF 1999

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE—LYME DISEASE INITIATIVE OF 1999

SECTION 2. FINDINGS

SECTION 3. FIVE YEAR PLAN OF ACTION, PUBLIC HEALTH GOALS

Establishes a Five-Year plan (authorizing \$125 million over five years) to reduce the incidence and prevalence of Lyme disease, and requires Secretaries of Health and Human Services, Defense, Agriculture, and Interior to collaborate in creating this five year plan.

Goal No. 1: Direct Direction Tests. The legislation directs federal researchers to make the development of a reliable, reproducible direct detection test for Lyme disease a priority. Without a good detection test, individuals will continue to get misdiagnosed, insurance companies will continue to dispute and deny needed treatments, and patients will not know if they are truly cured of Lyme.

Goal No. 2: Improved Surveillance and Reporting System. Requires a review of the existing reporting system for Lyme, including